

3635

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)**

Applicant(s): **Abukuwa, et al**

Docket No.

**5754-00007**

Serial No.

**10/030,461**

Filing Date

**January 7, 2002**

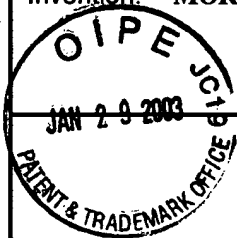
Examiner

**Nahid Amiri**

Group Art Unit

**3635**

Invention: **MORTAR GROUTING TYPE JOINT FOR REINFORCING BARS**



I hereby certify that this **Amendment responsive to Office Action**

*(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: The

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

**January 22, 2003**

*(Date)*

**C. Gail Boes**

*(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Gail Boes", written over a horizontal line.

*(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)*

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#7/B  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Abukawa  
Serial No: 10/030,461  
Filed: January 7, 2002  
Title: MORTAR GROUTING TYPE JOINT FOR REINFORCING BARS  
Group Art Unit: 3635  
Examiner: Nahid Amiri  
Attorney Docket No: 5754-00007

January 22, 2003

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT/RESPONSE

In the Claims

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

5bC<sup>3</sup> 1. (AMENDED) A mortar grouting type joint for reinforcing bars, comprising a hollow cylindrical body having an opening cover (2) at an end, a bolt hole (8) on the side wall, and first and second supporting protrusions (5) on the inner peripheral wall, adapted to support reinforcing bars (12) with bolts (13) and the supporting protrusions (5), wherein:

B<sup>1</sup> the portion of the inner peripheral wall between the first and second supporting protrusions is substantially linear;

at least a first of the supporting protrusions (5) consists of a pair of thin-walled members extending in the longitudinal direction of the hollow cylindrical body, and attached to said inner peripheral wall along substantially parallel edges; and

said thin-walled members each have a ridge line (7) sloping toward the opening cover (2), with the portion of the thin-walled member supporting the reinforcing bar (12) inserted through the opening cover (2) constituting the apex.

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